



**Inyo Local Agency Formation
Commission**
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January 23, 2013

William D. Ross, Esq.
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520 South Grand Avenue, Suite 300
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California Energy Commission

DOCKETED

11-AFC-2

TN # 69323

JAN 30 2013

Re: Request for Confirmation of Authority of the Local Agency Formation Commission of Inyo County to Designate the Southern Inyo Fire Protection District as the Service Provider in Relation to Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating System Project Docket No. 11-AFC-02 Before the California Energy Commission

Mr. Ross:

Thank you for your inquiry. On January 21, 2013, the Inyo Local Agency Formation Commission reviewed and considered your request. At that meeting, the Commission directed me to provide a response to your inquiry.

The Southern Inyo Fire Protection District (SIFPD) was created in 1993 to provide fire protection and ambulance services within its boundaries. Under the provisions of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 1985, subsequently amended to the current Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, the District was authorized as the service provider within the approved district boundaries, which includes the site of the currently proposed Hidden Hills Solar Energy Generating System project. To date, neither the boundaries of the District or the District's exclusive authority to provide fire protection and ambulance services have been modified.

The Inyo LAFCO is vested with the "exclusive authority and procedure for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization and reorganization for cities and districts. All changes of organizations shall be initiated, conducted, and completed in accordance with, and provided in, this division." (Government Code section 56100.) This would include the altering a District's boundaries to remove a portion of its service area. (Government Code section 56375.) Of course, Inyo LAFCO and the provisions of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 govern the establishment of local agencies and the services provided by those agencies in the State of California.

Based on my understanding of the citations referenced above and the Act in general, only the Inyo LAFCO may authorize an alternative service provider to provide the LAFCO

Letter to William D. Ross, Esq. from Inyo LAFCO
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designated services within the boundaries of the SIFPD. The District may, however, elect to contract with another agency to provide those services if it so desired.

Thank you. If you have any questions or require any further actions from Inyo LAFCO, please contact me at (760) 878-0263 or jhart@inyocounty.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joshua Hart", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Joshua Hart, AICP
Inyo LAFCO Executive Officer

cc: California Energy Commission